

# No Motherland Without You

"**No Motherland Without You**" (or "**Ode to Kim Jong Il**"), is a North Korean song about the country's Eternal Leader, Kim Jong Il. Composed by Hwang Jin Yong and written by Ri Jong O, it extols the proclaimed talent and virtues of Kim, and the attachment of the North Korean people for him as he led them out of the turmoils of the 1990s famine (referred to as the Arduous March). The repeated phrase in the song is "We cannot live without you! Our country cannot exist without you!" It is also considered to be the anthem of the *Songun* ("military-first") policy that Kim implemented in coexistence with the *Juche* Idea in 1995. It is frequently broadcast on the radio and from loudspeakers on the streets of Pyongyang.<sup>[2]</sup>

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## Significance

"No Motherland Without You" was composed especially for Kim Jong Il, the former leader of North Korea.<sup>[3]</sup> It is considered his "signature song".<sup>[4]</sup> The song enjoys popularity in North Korea.<sup>[3]</sup> Whereas the "Song of General Kim Il-sung" is sung at the beginning of public gatherings, "No Motherland Without You" is often at the end.<sup>[5]</sup>

## Lyrics

### Tangsini öpsümyŏn chogukto ŏpta

English: No Motherland Without You
당신이 없으면 조국도 없다
<b>Personal anthem of <u>Kim Jong Il</u></b>
<b>Lyrics</b> <span><span> </span></span> <u>Ri Jong O</u> , c. 1993
<b>Music</b> <span><span> </span></span> <u>Hwang Jin Yong</u> , c. 1993
<b>Adopted</b> <span><span> </span></span> 1993

No Motherland Without You	
<u>Chosŏn'gŭl</u>	당신이 없으면 조국도 없다
<u>Hancha</u>	當身이 없으면 祖國도 없다
<u>Revised</u>	<i>Dangsini</i>
<u>Romanization</u>	<i>eopseumyeon jogukdo eopda</i>
<u>McCune–Reischauer</u>	<i>Tangsini öpsümyŏn chogukto ŏpta</i> <sup>[1]</sup>

Korean	English
1. 사나운 폭풍도 쳐몰아 내고 신념을 안겨준 <b>김정일</b> 동지 (후렴) 당신이 없으면 우리도 없고 당신이 없으면 조국도 없다	1. You pushed away the severe storm You made us believe, Comrade <b>Kim Jong Il</b> (Refrain) We cannot live without you Our country cannot exist without you!
2. 미래도 희망도 다 맡아주는 민족의 운명인 <b>김정일</b> 동지 (후렴)	2. Our future and hope depend on you People's fate depends on you, Comrade <b>Kim Jong Il</b> (Refrain)
3. 세상이 열백번 변한다 해도 인민은 믿는다 <b>김정일</b> 동지 (후렴)	3. Even if the world changes hundreds of times People believe in you, Comrade <b>Kim Jong Il</b> (Refrain)

The military version of the song refers to Kim Jong Il as *General Kim Jong Il* ("**김정일 장군**"), because of his capacities as Supreme Commander of the KPA from 1991 to 2011, while the civilian version refers to him as *Comrade Kim Jong Il* ("**김정일 동지**"), because of his capacity as the General Secretary of the Workers Party of Korea from 1997 to 2011 and Chairman of the National Defense Commission from 1993 to 2011.

## See also

- North Korean music
- Propaganda in North Korea
- Pochonbo Electronic Ensemble

## References

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4. Dalton Fury (20 October 2015). *One Killer Force: A Delta Force Novel* (<https://books.google.com/books?id=1P65BwAAQBAJ&pg=PA58>). St. Martin's Press. p. 58. ISBN 978-1-4668-7090-1.
5. Eddie Burdick (26 May 2010). *Three Days in the Hermit Kingdom: An American Visits North Korea* ([https://books.google.com/books?id=g3TJ\\_-Tw3q0C&pg=PA328](https://books.google.com/books?id=g3TJ_-Tw3q0C&pg=PA328)). McFarland. p. 328. ISBN 978-0-7864-5653-6.

## External links

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- "No Motherland Without You" with Subtitles (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=og43-7QUphw>) on YouTube
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